REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Office Communication, and consideration and entry of this paper are respectfully requested in view of the herein amendment and remarks.

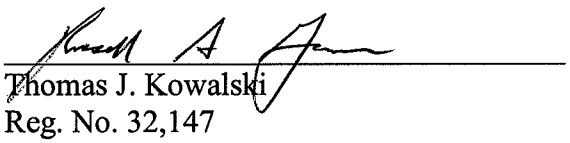
Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 14, 25, and 26 are under consideration. Claims 17-24 are cancelled without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents. No new matter is added.

The Office Communication required cancellation of claims 17-24, which are drawn to a non-elected invention, as a complete reply to the Final Rejection dated November 28, 2007. The Office Communication refers to MPEP § 821.01, in particular form paragraph 8.24.

In response, Applicants draw attention to the amendment to the claims, wherein claims 17-24 have been cancelled. Consequently, Applicants assert that the instant claims are in accordance with MPEP § 821.01.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the application now complies with all requirements set forth in the Office Communication. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Office Communication are thereby earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: 

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